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17 February 1950

HOT BULLETIN FOR THE DCI

1. Re article 4 of the Resume (Intelligence for Task Force 3), General McGee has just heard for the first time that we were already on this problem for General Quesada. General Cabell initiated this matter with the JIG and it has just come to his attention also.

2. From what we gather, General Quesada by-passed General Cabell's agency in coming direct to CIA a few months ago to request this intelligence, and what we should now try to do is get General Quesada and General Cabell together, amicably if possible, although it may be too late for that.

3. As I understand it, the Air Force has been designated by the Joint Chiefs as the monitor for this task force under the command of General Quesada. Normally task forces are provided with intelligence by the various service intelligence agencies, and normally the monitor is the directing force of the task force. Sometimes national intelligence may be needed by the task force, which we think should be produced by CIA. Apparently their request for it, however, should have come to us by chain of command, through the Air Force intelligence agency rather than direct from the task force commander.

4. With regard to General McGee's letter and proposed committee under his chairmanship, however, the JIC/JIG cannot provide commands with operating intelligence but rather prepare papers on specific questions as required by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for their own problems.

5. Apparently the JIG is quite willing to withdraw its suggestion of February 3d and abandon the idea of having its own committee and let CIA go ahead with the job it has started. They tell us that they started it only because they thought no one else was going to do it, and had received the request to do it from General Cabell.

6. Our problem apparently is to make the peace between General Quesada and General Cabell and to pacify General Cabell for accepting this job from General Quesada rather than from himself!

7. General McGee may bring this up at the meeting this afternoon.

8. Furthermore, just what is CIA's position with regard to the JCS Organization?

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9. As we understand it, the JIC, who by chain of command controls the military intelligence agencies, have the idea that the Intelligence Advisory Committee is the same as the Joint Intelligence Committee, i.e., controllers of instead of advisers to the DCI. From that mistaken similarity stems a lot of our troubles with the military, I think. In General McGee's letter, he as one member of the Intelligence Advisory Committee (Joint Intelligence Group) proposes to set up an interdepartmental committee under his chairmanship, bringing CIA along with the other intelligence agencies under the command of the Joint Intelligence Committee. We think such committees, participated in by members of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, should work for the Chairman of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, i.e., give advice to the DCI, not vice versa.

10. I think our party line should now be to emphasize the difference between the Joint Intelligence Committee and the Intelligence Advisory Committee as this might clear up some of our difficulties with the military.



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Chief, COMINT

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